

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The rejection of pending claims 1-4, 6-7, 9-16 and 18-24 was affirmed in the Decision On Appeal rendered August 27, 2009.

The above amendment amends independent claims 1 and 16, among other claims. It is respectfully submitted that as amended, the pending claims are patentable.

Regarding independent claim 1, the art including Balmer fails to teach or suggest the recited storage in which a register transfers existing data from one register to another when new data is written. It appears that the contended support in Balmer for such teaching is with regard to column 43, line 50 – column 45, line 52. However, all that this portion of Balmer teaches is that two interrupt registers may be provided to control interrupts, namely a flag register and an enable register. Nonetheless, all this teaches is that each of these two registers includes bits that can be set to a one value or a zero value. However, nothing teaches the transfer of existing data from one register to another when new data is written into the first register. Instead, these registers are taught to be separate from each other. At least for this reason, claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom are patentable over the cited art.

For at least similar reasons independent claim 16 and its dependent claims are also patentable.

New dependent claims 31-36 are patentable at least for the same reasons as the independent claims from which they depend.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504.

Respectfully submitted,

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